The Channing Home

Francis and Bellevue Streets (Longwood), Boston

Report No. 43

For the Year Ending

Dec. 31, 1911

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THE CHANNING HOME.

OFFICERS FOR 1912.

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Physicians.

WILLIAM H. SMITH, M.D.
FREDERICK T. LORD, M.D.

Consulting Laryngologist.

D. CROSBY GREENE, M.D.

Assistants.

GEORGE RICHARDS MINOT
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ELLIOTT CARR CUTLER

Matron.

Mrs. MARY E. P. FENNELL.

Nurse.

Miss E. C. MacADAM.

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The Directors submit the following report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1911.

HISTORICAL NOTE

HARRIET RYAN (afterward MRS. ALBEE) was born in Boston, March 5, 1829. In her youth she saw much of illness in her own family and assisted her mother in the care of helpless incurables. She was early compelled to earn her own living, and being of an exceptionally tender and sympathetic nature devoted herself and a large part of her earnings unselfishly to the care of chronic and helpless invalids. In the course of her daily rounds as a hairdresser she succeeded in obtaining sufficient encouragement in her benevolent task to enable her to secure the unoccupied vestry of Dr. Channing's church in Federal Street, where the Home was first opened in May, 1857. This soon proved inadequate for all the poor patients in need of her help, and in March, 1858, the Home was moved to 13 South Street, where it was incorporated as the Channing Home. In 1859 a fair was given in aid of the Home, for which poems were written by Nathaniel Langdon Frothingham, Oliver Wendell Holmes, James Russell Lowell and Ralph Waldo Emerson. On May 1, 1870, it was necessary to move to more commodious quarters at 30 McLean Street. Until her death on May 2, 1873, Harriet Ryan Albee never failed in her devotion to the Home and actively directed its affairs.

A charming sketch of her life was written in 1901 by James De Normandie, D.D. The Home was again moved on Oct. 31, 1907, to its present location on the corner of Francis and Bellevue Streets (Longwood), Boston.

The institution has now completed more than a half century of existence and was the first of its kind to be established in this country. A comfortable home has already been given to more than twelve hundred indigent women, of whom about four-fifths have been victims of consumption in its advanced stages. All patients have been treated free of charge.

PURPOSES OF THE HOME

It was Harriet Ryan's purpose that the Home should never do good by rule but according to a present need. The care of tuberculous patients is a serious problem in Boston where there are at least four thousand cases of consumption in its contagious stage and for whom less than four hundred beds are provided by municipal and private charity. Many of these patients must be turned away from hospitals as ineligible and remain a menace to every one with whom they come in contact.

In view of the pressing need in the community for the isolation and care of poor patients with pulmonary tuberculosis in its more advanced stages, it is the purpose of the Directors of the Home to devote its resources more exclusively than formerly to such cases. In view also of the increasing provision by the city and the state of public institutions for the care of tuberculous patients without regard to their previous social condition, it is felt that this Home can fill a special place by the admission of those whose former associations would make life in a public institution an added trial in their affliction.

The protective influence of the Home in the community

is one of its most important functions. Tuberculosis is a preventable disease. It is communicable and most dangerous in the advanced stages of the pulmonary form. One of the most important means of checking its spread is therefore the segregation of patients with advanced pulmonary tuberculosis. In isolating so many cases with this form of the disease, the Channing Home has performed an invaluable work in preventing the spread of tuberculosis by protecting the patients' homes and the public from infection and by relieving the wage-earners of the family from the burden of a long and expensive illness. Preventive measures of this sort should be largely extended in this and other communities. The rapidly diminishing mortality from tuberculosis in the past twenty-five years is hopeful for the final stamping out of the disease. The rapidity with which this can be accomplished is largely dependent on the co-operation and assistance which an enlightened public gives to preventive measures. This and all previous reports of the Channing Home contain a melancholy record of lives needlessly sacrificed through ignorance.

Tuberculosis is not only preventable: in its earliest stages the disease is often capable of cure. Under favorable conditions an arrest of the disease may also in rare instances be secured in its more advanced stages. In its new building, with an abundance of fresh air and sunshine, the Home can now offer more hope of cure to those who are capable of recovery. The quiet neighborhood and pleasing prospect across the Parkway are important factors in contributing to the comfort and cheer of the patients.

The Home also exerts an important educational influence on the community. By a course of strict training it can now instruct its patients in the sources of danger to others. The observance of proper precautions by the patients diminishes the chance of infection from those who leave the

institution and is a useful example to the numerous relatives and friends who visit the Home. In a number of instances the necessity for medical investigation of members of the patients' families has been successfully urged.

IN MEMORIAM

Since the last report the Home has suffered an irreparable loss in the death of one of its oldest and staunchest friends. Miss Sarah Elizabeth Read made weekly visits to the Home when in Boston from 1870 to within a few weeks of her death on May 2, 1911. She was a member of the Board of Directors, contributed generously to the support of the Home, and by her presence and innumerable and unrecorded acts of friendliness and material assistance added greatly to the comfort and cheer of the patients.

BEQUESTS

During the year the Home received $5,000 from the estate of Miss Sarah Elizabeth Read and an equal sum from the estate of Mrs. James M. Barnard.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

The arrangement of the new building has continued to prove satisfactory. The work of the institution can now be done with far greater efficiency and safety than was possible in the old building.

During the year, the lower veranda previously open to invasion by wind, rain and snow was enclosed and extended toward Francis Street (as shown in the accompanying photographs) and is now available for fresh air treatment by night as well as by day and in all kinds of weather. This valuable addition to the Home was generously contributed by Mrs. Shepherd Brooks in memory of Miss Read.

NEW VERANDA, FROM FRANCIS STREET

The defective tin roof, mentioned in the last report, was made good by the builders, Messrs. Whitcomb and Kavanaugh, who with consistent fairness shared the expense of a new roof with the Home.

The Directors wish to thank the Young Men's Christian Union for carriage rides during the warm season, Dr. John Dixwell, Madame V. Johnson and Miss Croix, and Dr. Gerald Blake and Mr. Arthur Blake for concerts. To the New England Deaconess Association the Directors are indebted for the assistance of their nurses in times of need.

The Directors wish also to express their obligations to Mr. John S. Ames, Mrs. C. W. Amory, Mrs. S. Parkman Blake, Mrs. Shepherd Brooks, Dr. and Mrs. E. S. Benedict, Mr. and Mrs. J. Randolph Coolidge, Mrs. C. P. Curtis, Mrs. C. Cunningham, Mrs. G. C. Cutler, Dr. Elliott Cutler, Mrs. Carver, Miss Marie V. Dwight, the Misses Dwight, Dr. George Denny, Miss Ewing, Dr. and Mrs. Gaertner, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Fessenden, Miss Alison Haughton, Dr. Lewis Hackett, Mrs. Henry P. King, Miss Kennan, Mrs. George G. Lowell, Miss Georgina Lowell, Miss A. P. Loring, Mrs. Gardiner M. Lane, Mrs. E. Roscoe Matthews, Dr. George Minot, S. S. Pierce Company, Miss Putnam, Miss Sarah E. Read, Miss Katherine Rogers, Miss M. R. Ring, Dr. Felix Rackemann, Dr. C. Reggio, Miss Julia Robbins, Mrs. Channing Simmons, Rev. D. S. Waldron, Mrs. S. D. Warren, Miss T. W. White, Mrs. M. Whitehouse, and the Faith and Hope Association, who have sent furnishings and fruits, flowers and other delicacies to the Home. They wish also to acknowledge the kind services rendered at all times by the physicians and their assistants as well as by the matron and the nurse.

NEEDS OF THE HOME

The Home is in urgent need of further financial assistance to complete and enlarge the important work it has undertaken. The annual expenses of the Home in its new building, including ordinary expenditures and contingent outlays for repairs and painting, exceed the income from invested funds and annuities by about $600. Since 1909 an earnest appeal has been made for annual subscribers. The names of those who have contributed to the Home during the past year will be found on page 10. It is hoped that this list may be largely extended. Donations and bequests are also earnestly solicited.

Ten piazza chairs are needed and a granolithic sidewalk about the Home would do much to improve the approach to the Home in bad weather.

MEDICAL REPORT

To January 1, 1912, one thousand two hundred and ninety patients have been admitted to the Home.

On December 31, 1910, there were twenty-two patients in the Home, and during the year ending on December 31, 1911, thirty-three patients were admitted. Thus fifty-five patients are on record for the year which has elapsed since the last report. Of this number one still in the Home suffers from arthritis deformans. The remaining fifty-four patients had pulmonary tuberculosis and may be classed according to the stage of their disease as follows:

Incipient	6
Moderately advanced	3
Far advanced	45

An improvement has been obtained under treatment in five of the incipient, in two of the moderately advanced, and

INTERIOR OF NEW VERANDA

in four of the far advanced cases. In forty-three patients there has been no improvement. Of this number thirteen have died.

There are twenty-one tuberculous patients now in the Home and twenty have been discharged during the year. Of those discharged the condition was improved in four.

The friends of the Home are invited to visit the institution and see for themselves the plan on which it is conducted. Any gifts may be sent to the Treasurer, Hon. James P. Parmenter, Suffolk Court House, or to the Home.

Mrs. Freeman Allen,
Mrs. Henry P. King,
James P. Parmenter,
Harold J. Coolidge,
Algernon Coolidge,
Executive Committee.

DONATIONS AND ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Mrs. Gordon Abbott	$10.00
Mrs. C. F. Adams, 2d	10.00
Miss Sarah H. Adams	5.00
Mrs. Freeman Allen	5.00
Mr. John S. Ames	25.00
Mr. C. W. Amory	10.00
Mrs. Boylston Beal	5.00
Mrs. James H. Beal	5.00
Mrs. W. W. Blackmar	5.00
Mrs. A. W. Blake	5.00
Mrs. S. P. Blake	10.00
Mrs. Shepherd Brooks	25.00
Miss S. F. Bremer	40.00
Mrs. Theodore G. Bremer	5.00
Miss F. R. Brewer	5.00
Miss Emma F. Cary	10.00
Mrs. C. F. Choate, Jr.	10.00
Dr. J. Payson Clark	5.00
Mr. H. J. Coolidge	25.00
Mrs. J. Randolph Coolidge	20.00
Mr. J. T. Coolidge	25.00
Mrs. S. V. R. Crosby	10.00
Mrs. Charles P. Curtis	25.00
Mrs. James F. Curtis	10.00
Mr. C. A. Dean	25.00
Miss R. L. Dexter	15.00
Miss Louise Dresel	2.00
Mr. J. W. Dunphy	25.00
Mr. S. H. Fessenden	50.00
A Friend in memory of Esther Albee	100.00
Mrs. H. S. Grew	10.00
Mr. J. L. Hall	25.00

Mr. Henry Hornblower	$20.00
Mr. F. W. Hunnewell	100.00
Miss E. M. Iasigi	5.00
Miss M. V. Iasigi	5.00
Mrs. G. M. Lane	10.00
Abbott Lawrence Fund	100.00
Mrs. George C. Lee	20.00
Mrs. W. C. Loring	5.00
Mrs. T. K. Lothrop	25.00
Miss Georgina Lowell	35.00
Mr. Henry Lyman	25.00
Mrs. Otis Norcross	25.00
Mr. J. P. Parmenter	20.00
Mrs. C. S. Rackemann	10.00
Mrs. Neal Rantoul	20.00
Miss Sarah E. Read	100.00
Mrs. R. S. Russell	20.00
Mrs. Q. A. Shaw	25.00
Mr. J. T. Spaulding	25.00
Mr. W. S. Spaulding	25.00
Mrs. Frederic Stone	10.00
Miss A. M. Storer	5.00
Miss M. G. Storer	5.00
Mr. Thomas Todd	5.00
Mr. C. G. Winslow	5.00

THE CHANNING HOME, *in account with*

JAMES P. PARMENTER, *Treasurer.*

December 31, 1910, *to December* 31, 1911.

DR.

Balance from last Account	$1,303.46
Interest on Mortgages	225.00
Interest on Bonds	3,740.00
Dividends on Stocks	2,930.00
Trustees of E. V. Ashton Estate	1,700.00
R. B. Brigham Estate, Annuity	1,000.00
Gifts and Subscriptions	1,272.00
Interest on Deposit in Old Colony Trust Company	73.10
	$12,243.56

CR.

Ordinary Expenses of Home	$11,311.05	
Insurance	82.50	
Accrued Interest on Bonds Purchased	22.34	
Sundries	136.69	
Balance to Next Account	690.98	
		$12,243.56

JAMES P. PARMENTER, *Treasurer.*

January 10, 1912.